

Pentatonics

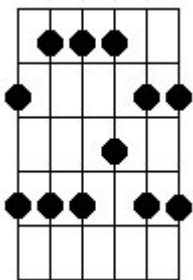
The pentatonic scales are among the most important scales in modern guitar music. They fit over a wide variety of chords, and are popular for soloing in many styles of music.

You should already know the major and minor scales from the [Basic Theory](#) lesson, and the pentatonics are a derivative. Pentatonic scales are among the most important scales in modern guitar music. They fit over a wider variety of chords than other scales because they contain only five notes, as opposed to the seven of the normal minor scale. As a result there is less chance of choosing a note which clashes with a chord and so these scales are often used in soloing.

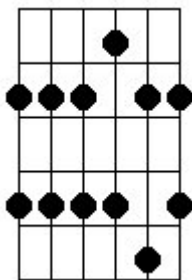
The major and minor pentatonic scales can be played all over the neck by using shapes which fit together by the second note of one shape equaling the first note of the next shape. Both the major and minor pentatonic scales share the same shapes, but start in different places.

THE MAJOR PENTATONIC POSITIONS (FORMULA: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

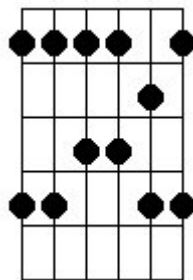
Position 1



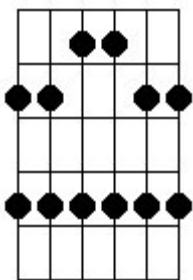
Position 2



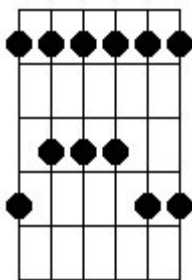
Position 3



Position 4

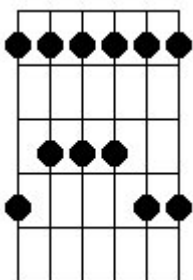


Position 5

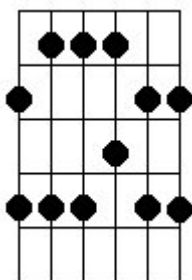


THE MINOR PENTATONIC POSITIONS (FORMULA: 1, b3, 4, 5, b7)

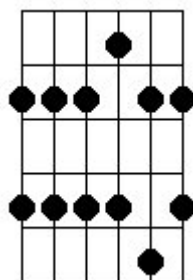
Position 1



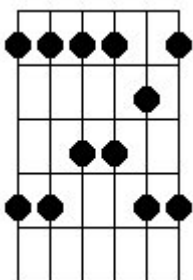
Position 2



Position 3



Position 4



Position 5

